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YOUR FAVE SIMPSONS EPISODES {page 17}

HAPPY LOUIS RIEL DAY
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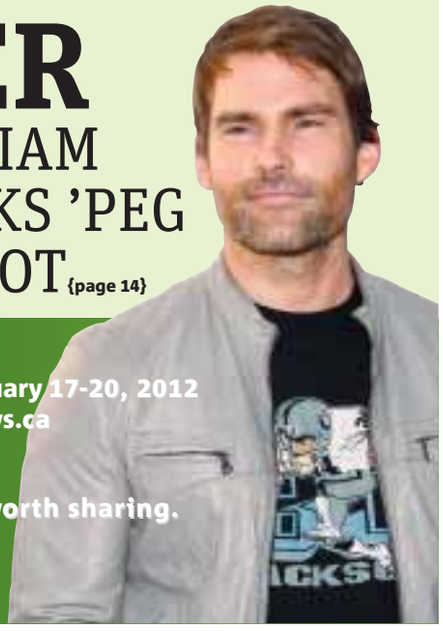
PLAYER
SEANN WILLIAM SCOTT THINKS 'PEG GIRLS ARE HOT {page 14}



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News worth sharing.

Beers, cheers & beards at Festival du Voyageur

SHANE GIBSON/METRO

▶ La Famille St. Vincent, the official voyageur family for this year's Festival du Voyageur, got the party started on Thursday by unveiling a special fire pit that will keep visitors warm throughout the 10-day winter festival.

Winnipeg's annual winter festival brings the party to Whittier Park ◐ Daniel Roa, Fire & Smoke, Oh My Darling, DJ Co-op and DJ Hunnicut are among the hundreds of artists scheduled to perform

SHANE GIBSON
@METRONEWS.CA

Hold on to your beards, Festival du Voyageur starts this weekend.

The 43rd annual edition of the Winnipeg winter festival officially kicks off Friday but organizers let media in Thursday to see just what they've got in store this year.

"We are ready to rock," said festival president Geneviève Clément after the launch. "It's the day before festival and we are so excited. Our team has been just amazing and have created this wonderful place for people to come and celebrate winter."

After a special Torch Light Walk starting at the Forks at 6 p.m. Friday the festivities get underway at Voyageur Park with opening ceremonies beginning at 7:30 p.m. and organizers promise the new tradition will involve fire, music and a lot of dancing.

"We're going to give everyone who comes to the park an amazing experience," said Clément, adding the lack of snow this winter won't dampen the party. "We're going to be able to give people the exact experience they're coming here for."

"We're going to give everyone who comes to the park an amazing experience. We're going to be able to give people the exact experience they're coming here for."
FESTIVAL PRESIDENT GENEVIÈVE CLÉMENT

Festival organizers trucked in tons of snow from outside Winnipeg to make sure there was enough of the white stuff to build the Molson Coors Snow Bar, the snow maze and the snow sculptures.

This year the festival is focusing on music with more than 235 shows planned for various stages.

Favourites like the Beard Growing Contest and the Jigging and Fiddling Contest return, while a new tradition — the Louis-Riel Look-A-Like Contest — is planned to help celebrate Louis Riel Day on Monday.

Festival du Voyageur will carry on at Whittier Park until Feb. 26. Tickets are available at Safeway or at the gate.

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Shoppers expansion upheld

SVJETLANA MLINAREVIC/FOR METRO

▶ Fort Rouge-East Fort Garry Coun. Jenny Gerbasi addresses the 27 appellants to the Shoppers expansion at Thursday's appeal committee meeting.

Councillor sides with retailer, says she feels growth would not ruin Osborne Village The new 17,600-sq.-ft. store will have three different facades, traditional architectural mouldings, red brick

SVJETLANA MLINAREVIC
WINNIPEG@METRONEWS.CA

It was a battle between neighbourhood diversity and corporate expansion, and the expansion won out.

In a unanimous decision, councillors voted Thursday to allow Shoppers Drug Mart to expand its Osborne Village store.

"This has been a very, very challenging issue…. I believe there is a split in the neighbourhood," said Coun. Jenny Gerbasi, who sits on the appeal committee.

"There are people who support (the expansion) and there are people who oppose it. I think we can all agree that this is not a black-and-white decision that the neighbourhood is all against it or the neighbourhood is all for it."

The owners of the Movie Village and Vi-Ann restaurant buildings want to sell their building to the corporate chain, but some residents have resisted, saying the expansion doesn't fit in with the neighbourhood's character.

Gerbasi said the expansion would benefit the community in regards to pedestrian safety, aesthetics, traffic control and waste improvements.

4,020

The number of signatures collected against the expansion, along with 1,000 supporters on Facebook.

She also stipulated Shoppers' plans must be approved by the city centre community committee and that changes proposed by Shoppers on Thursday be added to the submission.

"It's a form of checks and balances to make sure the plans are what they say they are," said Gerbasi.

For Vi-Ann owner Bac Bui, whose restaurant became the symbol of resistance to the expansion, Thursday's decision came as no surprise.

"I knew they were going to vote like this. I prepared myself (for it)," said Bui.

Bui said he was offered the commercial space on the second floor of the expanded site with two years of free rent followed by eight years of rent control, whereupon he will pay the same amount he is paying now.

While Bui said he appreciates the offer, to start up in a brand-new location is beyond his means.

"It would cost $100,000," said Bui.

Amendments

Shoppers' new amendments to the design:

- Moving the post office to the front of the building in a semi-self-contained space and signage to make it aesthetically look like a separate unit.
- Two entranceways on the Osborne Avenue side instead of one. As well, entranceways on River Avenue and on the west side of the building across from Safeway.
- A stairway, elevator and freight elevator have been added to accommodate potential businesses for the second floor.

1 news

When a 17-year-old boy got the green light for a gastric bypass, he didn't hesitate, despite some drastic changes required. Scan the code for story.

To scan 2D barcodes in Metro, download the free ScanLife app at 2dscan.com.

On the web at metronews.ca

A man who tried to blow up a packed flight with a bomb hidden in his underwear has been sentenced to life in prison. Video at metronews.ca

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SEAN LEDWICH/METRO

▶ Winnipeg Harvest executive director David Northcott, standing, with Catherine Compeau, left, Cathie Sauve Clarke, and Shelley Sauve, who shared their stories of low-income struggles at the release of the ALL report.

Minimum wage not even enough for basics: Report

A report by Winnipeg Harvest and the Social Planning Council of Winnipeg concludes that low-income Winnipeggers do not have enough money for food, shelter, and clothing.

The 2012 Acceptable Living Level Report released Wednesday details the personal stories and spending habits of more than a dozen Winnipeg Harvest clients. It quantifies the data into the amount of money necessary to buy basic needs for a year — excluding extras like medicine — for four family groups.

The report shows that even when just buying basic needs, several family groups earning a lower income do not make enough money. That includes those families where two adult earners supporting children have a full-time, minimum-wage job.

$28,000
The amount a person makes on minimum wage in Manitoba.

"These are honest and real numbers," said Winnipeg Harvest's David Northcott of the 95-page report. "They're from real people, and they're real stories. They're not statistics and they're not dressed-up in academia."

Northcott asked people to look at the report and judge for themselves if the families could cut their spending further.

"Even take one slice of it. Take the food budget — can you live on $20 a week?"

Dennis Lewycky, executive director of the Social Planning Council of Winnipeg said poverty affects everyone.

"When you have people who are not able to live an adequate life it affects our whole society — economy, culture, everything. The rest of us have to recognize that poverty is our collective task," Lewycky said.

The 2012 ALL Report is the fourth of its kind issued since 1997. It's available online at winnipegharvest.org/position-papers-reports

SEAN LEDWICH

OMG, Clodhoppers guys are back

Chocolate entrepreneurs base new business in Winnipeg

SHANE GIBSON
@METRONEWS.CA

MARAYNA DICKINSON/ALACE PHOTOS

▶ Larry Finnson, Arlene Dickinson and Chris Emery will launch their new OMG's chocolates next month.

Chocolate lovers can rejoice — the boys who brought the world Clodhoppers are back.

Fresh from an appearance on CBC's Dragons' Den — where they inked a $250,000 deal with Arlene Dickinson — local chocolate entrepreneurs Chris Emery and Larry Finnson are setting up shop in Winnipeg and launching a new candy creation they've called OMG's.

"It's a great start," said Emery, who, along with Finnson, turned his grandmother's candy recipe into the multi-million-dollar Clodhoppers brand in 1996.

A board decision led the pair to sell Clodhoppers in 2006, and they've had to wait five years for a non-compete clause to lapse before starting up their new confectionary venture.

They didn't waste any time getting back in the game.

After testing a number of sweet ideas Finnson and Emery settled on a recipe consisting of graham clusters covered with either dark or milk chocolate mixed with diced almonds and crunchy toffee bits.

2 charged in string of robberies

Two women are facing a number of charges after a string of criminal activity in Winnipeg's downtown Wednesday.

The day's worth of theft and robberies came to an end after two female suspects approached an 18-year-old female victim around 6:50 p.m. in the area of Portage Avenue and Donald Street and tried to grab her purse. The robbery in progress was noticed by passersby, who intervened and notified officers. Nothing was stolen from the victim.

Police located the suspects near Fort Street and Portage Avenue where they were taken into custody.

Crystal Marie Genaille, 20, and Nicole Marie Lagimodiere, 26, both from Winnipeg, are charged with three counts of robbery and one count of theft. Both have been detained in custody.

SHANE GIBSON

Gunfire hits house

A home in the North End was the target of gunfire Wednesday night.

Police responded to a home in the 600 block of Alfred Avenue around 10:45 p.m. after receiving reports of shots fired.

Officers on the scene confirmed a number of shots had been fired and the front of the residence had sustained damage.

There are no reported injuries. SHANE GIBSON

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A Surefoot when walking Winnipeg sidewalks

Sidewalk conditions advisory believed to be the first of its kind in the world ◐ Program has been two years in the making

SEAN LEDWICH/METRO

▶ From left, Dr. Gina Sylvestre of the University of Winnipeg, Dr. Lynne Warda of the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority and Winnipeg councillor Harvey Smith launch a new walking conditions advisory.

SEAN LEDWICH
WINNIPEG@METRONEWS.CA

Winnipeggers can now access daily walking condition updates online.

The Surefoot Winter Walking Conditions Bulletin was launched Thursday by Safe Communities Winnipeg at the Heath Sciences Centre with Coun. Harvey Smith as the celebrity poster boy. Smith suffered his own slip on a slushy Main Street on Jan. 31, fracturing his left hip.

"This program is so good," said Smith. "It will let people know… what the conditions are for walking."

The online advisory was created at a cost of $5,000 with a slew of partners including the city, the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, and the University of Winnipeg.

Updated daily by city supervisors, the advisory will rate walking conditions as easy, moderate, difficult or hazardous.

Dr. Lynne Warda of the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority said Winnipeg sees 2,000 hospital admissions yearly among older adults for all types of falls. A press release said falls in Manitoba account for $164 million in health-care spending and 90 per cent of hip fractures.

Smith said his hip fracture and the pain he suffered "was the worst experience of my whole life… I wouldn't wish my worst enemy to have a fall."

Smith underwent surgery to have a rod secure his fracture and has already been climbing stairs. He expects to be released from hospital soon and pledged to be back in council by Wednesday.

The walking conditions advisory is online at surefoot.com.

Low risk of flooding in Manitoba

After several years of being battered by floods, U.S. weather forecasters say people living along the Red River are likely to catch a break this year.

A National Weather Service outlook released Thursday says there's little chance of a major flood along the river this spring.

"The probabilities for exceeding (a) minor flood stage are low," the outlook states.

There is very little snow on the ground along the flood plain and "large areas of open ground with only patchy traces of snow" across the Red River basin. Where there is snow, it is only a few centimetres deep.

The soil is also relatively dry, which reduces the risk of heavy spring runoff.

"The top few inches of soil remain somewhat dry, but partially snow-covered and quite frozen," the outlook says. "Deeper soil levels appeared damp but not saturated at freeze-up and have likely remained so."

Forecasters say most rivers and streams in the Red River basin are covered with thick ice, but it is well below levels seen in recent years.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CAFAC

Adoption agency, province strike deal

The Canadian Advocate for the Adoption of Children (CAFAC), who nearly had to close their doors after the Government of Manitoba denied a request to charge more for their services last month, have reached a deal with the province.

"We are pleased to share the news that we have agreed to set up a consultation process on a new fee structure for families already involved in the adoption process as well as for future clients," reads a joint letter sent to families dated Feb. 15 signed by CAFAC chairperson Brian Clark and John Leggat, Manitoba's assistant deputy minister of child and family services. "CAFAC strongly believes the new fee structure for current and future clients will contribute to their plan for a more sustainable funding framework."

CAFAC is a Minnedosa-based agency specializing in international adoption.

SHANE GIBSON

MGEU fails to scuttle Phoenix Sinclair inquiry

Manitoba's highest court has dismissed an attempt to scuttle the public inquiry into a young girl's death.

The union representing Manitoba social workers argued before the Court of Appeal that an inquiry isn't the best way to examine the case of Phoenix Sinclair.

The girl spent much of her short life in foster care before dying in 2005 at age five from prolonged abuse at the hands of her mother and step-father.

The Manitoba Government and Employees' Union argued the inquiry didn't have jurisdiction to look into why and how the little girl died, suggesting an inquest would be more appropriate.

The appeal court disagreed and said the inquiry should proceed.

Commissioner Ted Hughes is expected to start hearing from witnesses later this spring.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SUPPLIED

▶ Phoenix Sinclair

Stobbe trial hears police tape

Jurors in the trial of a Manitoba man accused of murdering his wife have listened to a recording of him being questioned by police.

The interview was done a few hours after Beverly Rowbotham was found dead in Selkirk, Man.

In the recording, Mark Stobbe's tells an RCMP officer that his wife disappeared while on a late-night shopping trip.

He says he fell asleep with one of his sons, woke up around 2:30 a.m., and noticed his wife had not returned.

The Crown alleges Stobbe killed Rowbotham with a hatchet behind their home, then drove the body to Selkirk and returned home on bicycle.

In the interview, a police officer asks Stobbe if he and his wife argued, and Stobbe says they only had a few tiffs and his wife got "grumpy" when she had her period.

Stobbe was a senior adviser to former Saskatchewan premier Roy Romanow before moving to Manitoba a few months before his wife's death in October 2000.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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HUSKY QUARANTINED

Family dog kills baby near Calgary

A family dog has killed a newborn baby boy in a community just north of Calgary.

RCMP said the infant was attacked Wednesday morning inside the family's home in Airdrie.

The boy was taken to Alberta Children's Hospital in Calgary with traumatic injuries and died 12 hours later.

"It is a sad case all around," said RCMP Sgt. Patricia Neely.

"The investigation has been conducted by the RCMP and there is absolutely no indication of negligence on behalf of the family.... The pet has no previous history of aggression or violence and this was completely unexpected."

The dog, a husky, is being quarantined until the family and bylaw officers decide whether it should be destroyed.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ex-Degrassi actor mourned

Degrassi creator Linda Schuyler expressed condolences Thursday as word emerged that actor Neil Hope, who played Derek "Wheels" Wheeler on the long-running youth series, apparently died five years ago without any public announcement.

It wasn't clear why his death had not been reported previously, but a spokeswoman for Epitome Pictures, which produced the award-winning series, said castmates had lost track of the former star. THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Neil Hope

Feds target 'bogus' refugees

New bill includes biometric ID, limits to appeals

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Immigration Minister Jason Kenney

The Conservative government is using its majority to once again overhaul the refugee system to reduce what it considers to be bogus claims.

Immigration Minister Jason Kenney tabled legislation in the House of Commons on Thursday that reverses some key concessions the Tories made to the opposition two years ago in order to pass the Balanced Refugee Reform Act through a minority Parliament.

This new legislation, called the Protecting Canada's Immigration System Act, more closely resembles the original refugee bill as tabled by the Tories, before any concessions.

But Kenney says a glut of refugee claims from the European Union has forced the government to adopt even tougher measures.

"We worked with the opposition in good faith and we ended up with a bill that was a huge improvement over the status quo," he said Thursday. "But we have a serious problem. We're facing a large wave of unfounded asylum claims coming from the European Union in particular. The only tool we have to address that now is the imposition of a visa. That hurts Canada's commercial, diplomatic interests. It hurts the tourism industry. We need other tools to address it."

Canada is close to inking a free-trade agreement with the European Union. The Czech Republic has threatened to hold up the deal if Canada does not get rid of a visa requirement it slapped on Czech citizens in 2009.

The new legislation would give the federal immigration minister final say over which countries are considered safe and which are not.

"Our generous asylum system has been abused by people making bogus refugee claims," Kenney said. "Our government is very concerned about the recent increase in refugee claims from democratic countries that respect human rights."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Appeals curbed

- Refugees from safe countries whose claims are rejected will no longer be permitted to appeal the decision to the Immigration and Refugee Board. They are allowed to appeal to the board under the current legislation.
- All rejected claimants can still appeal to the Federal Court, but they can be kicked out of the country while they wait for a ruling.

Man convicted in cup riot gets 17 months

The first person convicted in Vancouver's Stanley Cup riot was sentenced Thursday to 17 months in jail after admitting to joining the mob that left a path of destruction throughout the city's downtown core.

Ryan Dickinson, 20, pleaded guilty to participating in a riot, as well as breaching bail conditions from an unrelated assault charge.

He admitted to using a road barricade and a newspaper box to damage an unmarked police car, and then later tossing a mannequin and a newspaper box at the window of a clothing store several blocks away.

The Crown had asked for as much as 18 months in jail, arguing that everyone who participated that night must be punished for all of the damage the riot caused, regardless of their individual level of involvement.

The Crown labelled Dickinson an "instigator," casting him as an angry young man who appeared on video presented in court to be enjoying the violence.

Provincial court judge Malcolm MacLean rejected Dickinson's suggestion that he was merely "caught up in the moment."

"Mr. Dickinson's participation was serious and involved a number of conscious and deliberate decisions on his part, starting with his decision to go downtown knowing it was a breach of his bail," MacLean said.

Dickinson's lawyer said the young man was the product of a troubled upbringing in a broken home, and he said his client was remorseful and is looking to turn his life around.

So far, police have recommended charges against a total of 125 people, but Crown counsel has only approved charges against 47.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

GEOFF HOWE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Rioters break the front doors of a Sears store during the riot following Game 7 of the NHL Stanley Cup final in Vancouver last June.

'Vikileaks' may have Commons link

The Twitter stunt that revealed sleazy details about Public Safety Minister Vic Toews' acrimonious divorce proceedings appears to have emanated from the House of Commons.

In an investigation, the Ottawa Citizen traced the Internet Protocol address attached to the Vikileaks30 Twitter account to a Commons computer.

The newspaper also discovered the IP address is attached to a House employee who edits Wikipedia articles "often giving them what appears to be a pro-NDP bias."

Vikileaks30's Twitter postings began in earnest Tuesday night, an uber-public response to the Internet surveillance legislation — Protecting Children from Internet Predators Act — tabled by Toews.

Tweets divulged Toews' alleged infidelities while married to Lorraine Fehr, whom he divorced in 2010.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

DAVID VAN DYKE/METRO ILLUSTRATION

Patient gets wish

Talk show host Ellen DeGeneres granted would-be lung transplant patient Hélène Campbell's wish Thursday morning by talking about organ donation, but went a step further with a surprise interview via Skype from her set in Los Angeles.

Campbell was so surprised she had to ask her mom to increase her oxygen tank's flow to help her breath. The 20-year-old has idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis and only has 24 per cent lung capacity. She is waiting for a double lung transplant. METRO OTTAWA

Pricey. Property

▶ People walk out the entrance of 15 Central Park West in New York. The family of a Russian billionaire has bought the building's penthouse apartment for $88 million US.

RICHARD DREW/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Aiming sky-high in N.Y.

The Wall Street Journal says the property on Central Park West is now the most expensive apartment in the city. The seller was Sanford I. Weill, the former head of Citigroup. It was bought by a trust for the daughter of fertilizer tycoon Dmitry Rybolovlev.

Real estate crash haunts Spain

Economic downturn has left ghost towns in its wake across the country

PAUL WHITE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ A thistle grows in front of apartment blocks in Sesena, Spain. What was supposed to be a vibrant mini-city has since turned into a ghost development due to Spain's struggling economy.

Towering apartment blocks, complete with swimming pools and playgrounds, loom over empty streets, weed-filled lots and gaping excavation pits. The lone bank in this mega-development, nicknamed "Manhattan," closed two years ago and most storefronts are bricked up.

Apartments galore are for sale here and prices are plunging.

More than 13,000 apartments were supposed to go up to create a mini-city for 30,000 people just 45 minutes outside of Madrid. But only 5,100 were built, many are uninhabited and regular Spaniards who bought them as investments are now competing to offload them for huge losses.

Spain's real estate crash and economic implosion have turned what was supposed to become a vibrant suburban paradise for young Spanish couples and their children into one of the most visible monuments of the country's boom gone bust. Such modern-day ghost towns have become a familiar part of the Spanish landscape, abandoned shells left to slowly decay.

The number of foreclosure proceedings skyrocketed during the economic crisis. Nearly 530,000 were granted by courts from 2008 through September of 2011, most to banks taking homes, housing developments and vast tracts of land for residential and commercial real estate projects that may never become reality.

The banks were ordered this month by the recently elected centre-right government to set aside billions of additional euros to cover these toxic real estate assets valued at $232 billion US just as Spain teeters on the edge of what could be a lengthy recession.

In Sesena and other ghost developments around Spain, some banks are already trying to unload finished apartments at discounts of up to 50 per cent of their original prices. But that's hurting untold numbers of Spaniards who invested savings and took out big loans to buy property they thought they'd be able to rent or sell for a higher price. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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SAKCHAI LALIT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Thai immigration officers escort detained Iranian Mohammad Kharzei, centre, at the immigration headquarters in Bangkok on Thursday,

Thai plot linked to bombings elsewhere: Police

In wake of incidents, Israel's foreign ministry says security has been stepped up for diplomatic staff abroad

Three Iranians detained after accidentally setting off explosives in Bangkok were planning to attack Israeli diplomats, Thailand's top policeman said Thursday in the first confirmation by local officials that the group was plotting attacks in Thailand.

Israel has strongly accused Iran of being behind the botched plot, a bombing in India and an attempted bombing in the former Soviet republic of Georgia this week, which Iran has denied.

Citing the similarity of bombs used in New Delhi and Tbilisi, national police chief Gen. Prewpan Dhamapong said that Thai authorities now "know for certain that (the target) was Israeli diplomats."

"This issue was about individuals and the targets were specific," he said. "This was something personal."

Israel has accused Iran of waging a covert campaign of state terror and has threatened military strikes on Iranian nuclear facilities. Iran has blamed the Jewish state for the recent killings of Iranian atomic scientists and has denied responsibility for all three bomb plots.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ The three Iranian bomb suspects walk down a residential street in Bangkok in a composite from surveillance video.

"Israel expects (the Security Council) to issue a clear condemnation today, without any further delay or equivocation."
RON PROSOR, ISRAEL'S AMBASSADOR TO THE UN

The explosion Monday in New Delhi tore through an Israeli diplomatic vehicle, wounding the driver and a diplomat's wife, and an attempt was foiled the same day in Georgia.

Speaking to Israel Radio during a trip to Japan, Israeli Defence Minister Ehud Barak said: "It's clearer to more and more of the world that Iran, which is a veteran sponsor of terror, is trying to raise the bar even more, trying to harm diplomats around the world."

The plot in Bangkok was discovered when explosives in the men's rented house blew up by mistake Tuesday. Surveillance video showed the three men leaving their destroyed house just after the first blast. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

'Underwear bomber' given life sentence

U.S. MARSHALS SERVICE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

▶ Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab

Defiantly declaring "a day of victory," a Nigerian man was given a mandatory life sentence Thursday for trying to blow up a packed jetliner with a bomb sewn into his underwear. People aboard the flight testified that the failed attack had disturbed their sleep and travels for more than two years.

Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab was the same remorseless man who four months ago pleaded guilty to all charges related to Northwest Airlines Flight 253.

The 25-year-old, European-educated son of a wealthy banker, Abdulmutallab tried to set off the bomb minutes before the Amsterdam-to-Detroit flight landed.

Had the bomb not fizzled, nearly 300 people aboard the flight would probably have been killed.

Before Thursday's sentencing, four passengers and a crew member from the flight told U.S. District Judge Nancy Edmunds that they have struggled to live and travel normally since the incident on Christmas Day 2009.

Life in prison is a "just punishment for what he has done," the judge said. "The defendant poses a significant ongoing threat to the safety of American citizens everywhere."

During his trial, Abdulmutallab said he was carrying a "blessed weapon" to avenge Muslims who have been killed or poorly treated around the world.

"The Qur'an obliges every able Muslim to participate in jihad and fight in the way of Allah those who fight you, and kill them wherever you find them ... an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth," Abdulmutallab said. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Nigeria. Blaze

▶ Firefighters try to contain a fire at an informal diesel fuel depot in Lagos, Nigeria, on Thursday. Witnesses said no one was injured in the fire that consumed a number of trucks.

SUNDAY ALAMBA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lagos battles fuel depot inferno

Gunmen storm Nigerian prison

Armed gunmen from a radical Islamist sect stormed a federal prison in Nigeria amid heavy gunfire and explosions, killing one guard and freeing 119 inmates in an assault marking its growing national ambitions, officials said Thursday.

The sect known as Boko Haram claimed it freed seven followers in the attack that happened Wednesday evening in the town of Koton-Karifi, just south of Nigeria's capital Abuja. Though authorities declined to say the attack was the work of the group, it mirrored another massive prison break orchestrated by the sect in 2010.

The gunmen blasted through the prison's gate with a bomb and killed one guard in a firefight, officials said. Those inside the prison escaped in the fighting, though authorities had recaptured about 25 of them by late Thursday afternoon, local prison official Hadiza Aminu said.

The government said an investigation had begun into the attack.

Wednesday night's attack matched one Boko Haram launched in Bauchi state in September 2010 that freed about 700 inmates there. The sect spokesman said Thursday night attacks would continue until Nigeria's weak federal government releases all its detained members.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

No guarantee GM's 2012 will match historic 2011

Record profits could mean expansion in Canada if sales keep growing

PAUL SAKUMA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ A 2011 Chevrolet Cruze is featured at a car dealership in San Jose, Calif. General Motors Co. said Thursday it made more money in 2011 than any year in its history.

General Motors earned its biggest profit ever in 2011, but signs are emerging that its momentum could slow.

Strong sales in the U.S. and China helped the carmaker turn a profit of $7.6 billion US, beating its old record of $6.7 billion in 1997 during the pickup-truck and SUV boom.

Yet the company lost ground in the fourth quarter. Its profit fell eight per cent and missed Wall Street expectations. Europe and South America reported losses. And sales growth in the U.S. slowed even as more Americans bought cars and trucks

Still, GM is a vastly different company than it was in the late 1990s. It's smaller, has less debt and its contract with the United Auto Workers is less costly. But it took a government bailout and bankruptcy protection in 2009 to cut its bloated costs. The company made record money last year even though U.S. sales were near historic lows of 12.8 million cars and trucks.

This year, GM expects to increase its revenue as global sales grow and it charges more for models. However, it will make less money as sales shift to cars from trucks. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MICROSOFT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ This screen shot shows the msnNOW Discovery page.

MSN focusing on the here and NOW

Microsoft is hooking up MSN.com with a hipper sidekick to broaden its appeal and stay on top of the Internet's hottest topics.

The trend-tracking service, called msnNOW, tunes into the buzz by sifting through millions of Internet searches and links circulating among the hordes on Facebook and Twitter. The chatter is then distilled into the equivalent of a digital water cooler — a place where people can go to keep in touch without taking up a lot of their time. After months of development, the new feature debuts Thursday at now.msn.com.

The service is aimed at older teens and young adults who are increasingly relying on smartphones and other mobile devices to remain plugged into what's being talked about. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Plan for Greece debt not good enough: Diplomat

A European diplomat says current plans to help Greece with its debt load would still leave the country with debt of 129 per cent of economic output in 2020.

That's far above the 120 per cent level that eurozone leaders in October said was the maximum that could be considered sustainable.

The diplomat says international debt inspectors estimate in a new report that Greece's promised austerity efforts, a 100-billion-euro debt relief from private investors and a 130-billion-euro bailout, fail to reduce the country's debt sufficiently. He says several options were being discussed to bring the debt closer to the 2020 target.

These include help from the European Central Bank, lower interest rates on bailout loans, and helping Greece with an upcoming 5.5-billion-euro interest payment to bondholders.

The diplomat was speaking on condition of anonymity because the figures are confidential. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Minor leak keeps Enbridge pipelines offline

Two Enbridge pipelines were offline Thursday after the major crude shipper said it discovered a small leak in Michigan.

The spill of less than three barrels was found during planned maintenance-inspection and repair work to Line 5 on Wednesday, near the village of Sterling, Mich. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. THURSDAY

TSX	Dollar	Oil	Natural gas	Gold
+ 123.57 (12,485.59)	+ 0.26¢ (100.35¢ US)	+ $0.52 US ($102.32 US)	$2.55 US (+ 12¢ US)	$1,728.40 US (+ $0.30 US)

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A NATION IS SWEPT AWAY BY LINSANITY

THE METRO LIST

NEIL MORTON
METRO

1 Pinterest.com: It's the next Facebook or Twitter. Quietly but suddenly, this invite-only virtual pinboard where you "organize and share things you love" has exploded in popularity. It's still technically in beta, but is already one of the Top 10 social networks. Before you know it "pin" and "repin" will become as common terms as "tweet" and "retweet." You can "Like" it if you like.

2 Purple squirrel: Since a Pennsylvania couple discovered a purple squirrel in their backyard, the story has gone nuts on the Internet and a @purplsqurl Twitter account and Purple Squirrel Facebook page were started. A purple squirrel? For real? In related news, I think I saw a green chipmunk in my backyard. And a red bear. And a sasquatch.

3 Dare to wear red: Giving more meaning to the colour red this month, the Stephen Lewis Foundation dares Canadians to wear red and raise money to turn the tide of HIV-AIDS in Africa. The three top fundraisers by Feb. 29th will get to walk the runway at Toronto Fashion Week in March. Get more info at daretowearlove.com.

4 Tweet on Whitney Houston: A teenager on Twitter broke the news of Whitney's death a full 45 minutes before the mainstream media. The tweet, from @AjaDiorNavy, read thusly: "omgg , my aunt tiffany who work for whitney houston just found whitney houston dead in the tub . such ashame & sad :-(" Further proof social media really has changed everything.

5 Linsanity: LeBron who? New York Knicks point guard Jeremy Lin has come out of nowhere to become one of the most exciting players in the NBA — and one of its biggest new brands. He has led the must-watch Knicks to seven straight wins, including a buzzer-beater in Toronto against the Raps this week. On Twitter, he's gained 200,000 followers in one week @jlin7. A sure sign he's made it.

6 What Makes You Happy: A magazine with one of the longest titles ever — What Makes You Happy — launched this month with comedian Rick Mercer on the cover. It will tackle "happy, inspiring, silly, important, useful and/or frivolous" articles addressing different aspects of happiness. If you don't read it, just listen to Don't Worry, Be Happy. Works like a charm.

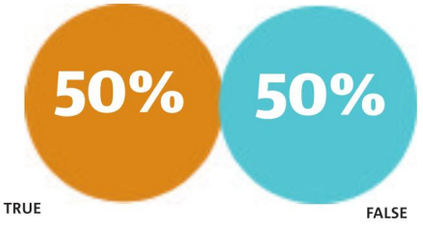
7 Will & Kate Barbie dolls: To commemorate their one-year anniversary April 29th, Mattel announced this week it's releasing Will and Kate royal-wedding Barbie dolls. You can preorder the Barbie Collector Royal Wedding William and Catherine Doll Set on Amazon. I'm holding out for my Kim Kardashian and Reggie Bush dolls.

8 Justin Bieber: The Biebs made world headlines this week when he made a dying girl's wish come true. Six-year-old Avalanna Routh has a rare form of brain cancer and her dream was to meet Bieber, so he flew her and her parents to N.Y.C. on Monday for a private meeting where they hung out and played board games. Never say never.

Follow Neil Morton on Twitter (@neilmorton).

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

True or false: Once a cheater, always a cheater?



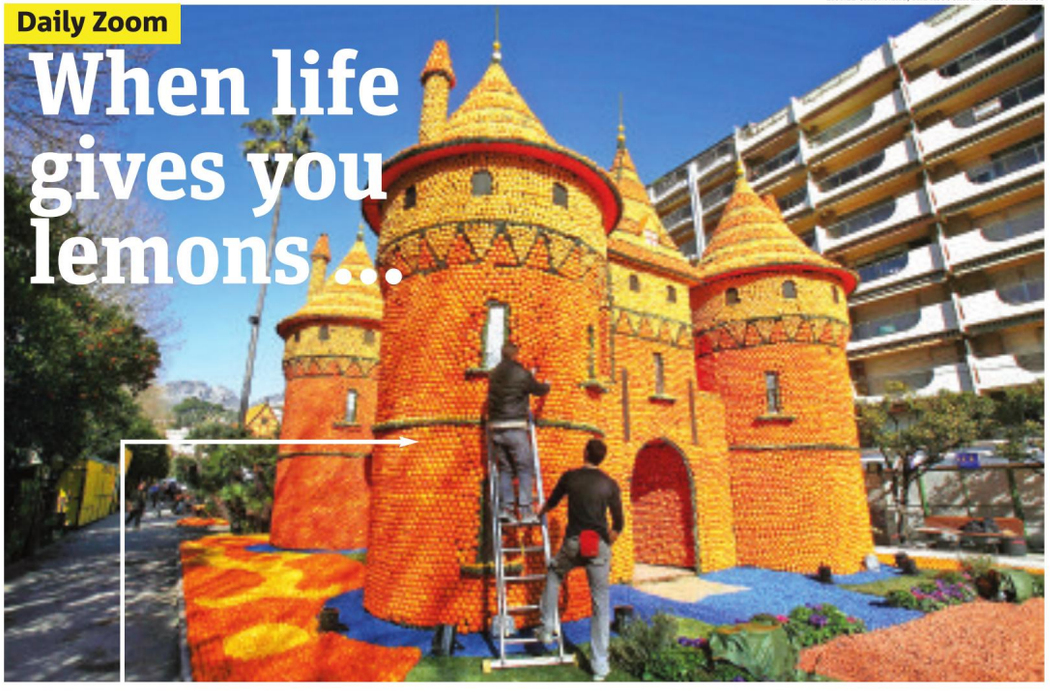
Local tweets

- **@Kelly Butler68:** We as player love all our fan.. Got to be able to take the praise with the criticism.. Thats sports.. Love and hate relationship
- **@TeeNathaniel:** The moment someone tells you that you're not good enough is the moment you know you're better than them.
- **@WestEndCassidy:** @ToewsVic Sent email to my condo assoc president but think I was too snarky. Please review & advise (it's the 1:17pm one) #TellVicEverything
- **@csdandiwal:** Hi @ToewsVic can you please send complete report of my activities to my wife every evening? and one monthly report also? #TellVicEverything
- **@kateyybabyy_:** I just sneezed and burped at the same time. Not sure if I should be proud or offended... #confusedtweet
- **@quintonblair:** U know retail stores are hurting when Zellers makes u buy something before they break a toonie.
- **@aaronmeandes:** GUYS! I'M EATING JUNK N' WATCHING RUBBISH! YOU'D BETTER COME OUT N' STOP ME!

LIONEL CIRONNEAU/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOS

Daily Zoom

When life gives you lemons ...



... make a festival

Workers made a French castle with lemons and oranges during the 79th Lemon Festival in Menton, southern France, on Thursday. The theme for the festival, which involves over 300 workers and uses 145 tonnes of citrus fruit, is "Menton welcomes the Regions of France."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Everyone loves 'em

Parades are a regular part of the festival, which runs until March 7.

- **Golden Citrus Parade:** Floats and live marching band music
- **Moonlit Parade:** Drumbeats, fireworks and dancing
- **Citrus exhibition:** The Biovès Gardens exhibit giant sculptures

Celebrate citrus

To celebrate different regions of France, citrus displays depict different aspects of the country, such as the Eiffel Tower for Paris, pictured right. Menton grows several varieties of lemons. The Palais Carnolès, a two-hectare public garden in Menton, grows over 100 kinds of fruit. METRO

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▶ The Artist

HANDOUT

▶ The Descendants

Synopsis

With just a few more sleeps until the biggest night in Hollywood, this week the Reel Guys breakdown the show; from the host to who should win and who *will* win best picture.

▶ Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close

▶ Moneyball

2 scene

Scene in brief

Once again Nicholas Cage turns up the heat as Johnny Blaze, the stunt biker who sacrifices his soul and becomes a fiery vigilante. This time he's hiding out in eastern Europe and joins a group of rebel monks to save a boy from the devil. Johnny Whitworth (of Empire Records fame) takes on the role of bad guy Ray Carrigan, who becomes Blackout.
METRO

Oprah Winfrey joins Jimmy Kimmel's post-Oscar special

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE & MARK BRESLIN

Oscars 'crystallized'

Richard Crouse and Mark Breslin share their thoughts on Billy Crystal reprising his role as Oscar host ◐ And they place their bets on best picture

Richard: We talked about the Oscars a few weeks ago, but we didn't touch on Billy Crystal coming back as host. I loved the old Crystal shows, but really hope he finds a new fresh approach for this year. I'm not interested in seeing him do another opening montage where he inserts himself into the nominated footage. What do you, oh comedy guru, hope he does with the show?

Mark: Oh, Richard, you know he's gonna do it; this time in black and white, in flip-flops and silent. Those montage sequences are like a drug to him — his name is Crystal, after all. It'll be old and hoary, but at least there will be some laughs. Of course, Billy's getting so old he'll have to turn his hearing aid up extremely loud and the teleprompter will have to be incredibly close. Your prediction on Best Picture, Richard?

RC: The Artist was the most fun I had at the movies last year but I'm not sure that means it deserves a best picture win. I think it will take it because it has won all the guild awards, but in my heart it's between Moneyball and Tree of Life. What's your choice?

MB: My choice is The Descendants, a movie of great maturity and mid-tone emotion. I had considered it a shoo-in until recently, because I thought The Artist was original to the point of gimmickry. But now I think The Artist is going to take it. It's a movie I liked a lot, but it's not very subtle. As far as Tree of Life goes, I thought it was pretentious hooey. And I heard they used non-union dinosaurs.

RC: Pretentious hooey! I accept that the birth of the universe sequence separates the men from the film snobs, but I loved how evocative of childhood it was. It captured something deeply emotional, even spiritual, whereas The Artist simply entertained the eye. The Descendants, for me, was a so-so movie with nice performances. Perhaps if Clooney had been working opposite a dinosaur I might have enjoyed it more.

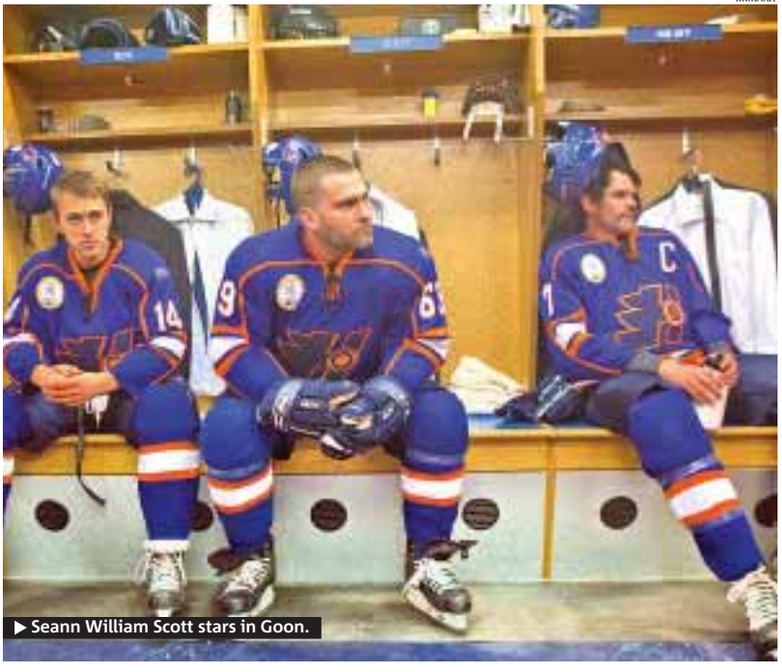
MB: Yeah, I know, Tree of Life certainly has its fans. The divisive film I loved was Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close. I guess the childhood depicted in that picture — melancholic, guilt-ridden, borderline Aspergers — was evocative of my own. But it doesn't stand a chance to win the Oscar, and I've made my inner peace with that.

Stifler, in skates

Seann William Scott is known for his lug-head characters
But he has some high-brow tastes — with a frat boy twist, of course

RICHARD CROUSE
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

HANDOUT



▶ Seann William Scott stars in Goon.

Seann William Scott is best known for playing Steve 'Stifmeister' Stifler in the American Pie series of movies. The character was a hard partying lug-head, who, according to the direct-to-DVD sequel Band Camp, became a porno director.

His specialty in films like Road Trip, Dude, Where's My Car? and The Dukes of Hazzard is playing hapless stoners and lug-heads so it may surprise you that his DVD player is currently hosting La Vie en Rose. That's right, the life story of singer Édith Piaf.

"That may be my favourite movie of all time," he says.

I tell him I once interviewed the movie's star Marion Cotillard.

"Is she hot?" he asks. "I have such a huge crush on her. She's got a boyfriend though. I went on the computer and looked up who she's dating. A serious boyfriend for a long time. Sucks."

That's the Seann William Scott audiences know and love. As an actor he usually finds the unexpected angle on a joke, and knows how to reel the viewer in.

We have a laugh before moving on to talk about his new film Goon. He plays a hockey enforcer even though he didn't grow up with the sport.

"All my friends played hockey and I was always envious because all the girls liked the hockey players."
SEANN WILLIAM SCOTT

"I'm more of a fan now," he says. "When I grew up in Minnesota I played baseball, football and basketball. So in the wintertime that's what I played, which is odd, because it's Minnesota. All my friends played hockey and I was always envious because all the girls liked the hockey players. Nobody came to the basketball games.

"Since the movie I have a greater appreciation of it now because it is so intense.

"I love hockey now. I think the relationship between the players is way cool.

"The guys are just closer and there is a sense of humour about it. Maybe it's a more manly sport than basketball … I'm sure a lot of basketball players won't appreciate that."

On shooting in Winnipeg

How did Seann William Scott like filming just north of home?

▶ "I expected it to be like Minnesota, but the girls were hotter in Winnipeg," he says. "They dress better and they're a little more hip. I was confused. Minnesota is just below. How'd they get so hip? I think they just eat better. They're not stuffing cheese curds down their throats."

Script for Goon came from a 'pure place'

A year-and-a-half ago Jay Baruchel told me he was writing a script for what he said would be the best hockey movie since the 1977 crowd favourite Slap Shot.

The resulting film is Goon, a new comedy tribute to the most misunderstood sports stars — the hockey enforcer. When I ask him if he could still make that boast now that the movie was finished he said, "With a doubt. Unquestionably."

"I go so far as to say we have the best hockey in any hockey movie. It has teeth and it hits you in the head like a two-by-four. It's loud. It's coarse. It's violent. But none of what I just mentioned would work or be relevant if you didn't care about what was happening. The most important thing about this movie is, and I hate using this word because it is so overused, but how much heart it has."

Shot in Manitoba, the movie stars American Pie's Seann William Scott as Doug Glatt, a semi-professional hockey player who can not only give a beating, but take one as well.

"It is an anthem to the most maligned, least understood position in professional sports," says Baruchel, "that of the hockey enforcer. I grew up with not just an appreciation but an inherent respect for what they did, so I decided these boys deserved their moment in the sun.

"That's why (the movie) is as violent as it is because it is not a clean job they do. Just like a soldier who leaves and runs the risk of not coming home this guy runs the risk of having some very terrible injuries inflicted on him every time he skates. We're not passing some moral judgment on it aside from (the idea that) we could take a lesson from these boys about their humble blue-collar work ethic."

Baruchel, who also co-stars, is a lifetime hockey fan who grew up watching hockey with his father on television.

"Hockey is as infinite as literature, as music as food. There is no way to make a movie about all of it so focused on one facet of it. It came from a very pure place."

RICHARD CROUSE

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▶ Goon pays respect to the hockey enforcer's job.

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The Secret World of Arrietty
Genre: Animation
Director: Hiromasa Yonebayashi
Stars: Bridgit Mendler, Amy Poehler, Will Arnett
⊕⊕⊕½

Already a hit in Asia, The Secret World of Arietty makes its North American debut with a new voice cast — including Carol Burnett — but the gorgeous animation intact.

The story of a young ailing boy who discovers tiny people living beneath the floorboards of his house is gently-paced kid's entertainment. The story unfurls slowly, scenes take their time to develop and the animation is classic, not frenetic. Kung Fu Panda Part 2 this isn't. The Secret World of Arietty may be a tad on the slow side for kids over the age of 10, but for the younger ones it's a wildly imaginative introduction to anime and fantasy storytelling.

RICHARD CROUSE

This Means War
Genre: Comedy/Action
Director: McG
Stars: Reese Witherspoon, Chris Pine, Tom Hardy
⊕

Sure to be one of the most contrived films of the year, This Means War features two buddy CIA operatives (Chris Pine, Tom Hardy) competing for the same woman (Reese Witherspoon). In short, the romantic-actioner is Bridget Jones' Diary meets Mr. & Mrs. Smith — only its miles from being as watchable as either.

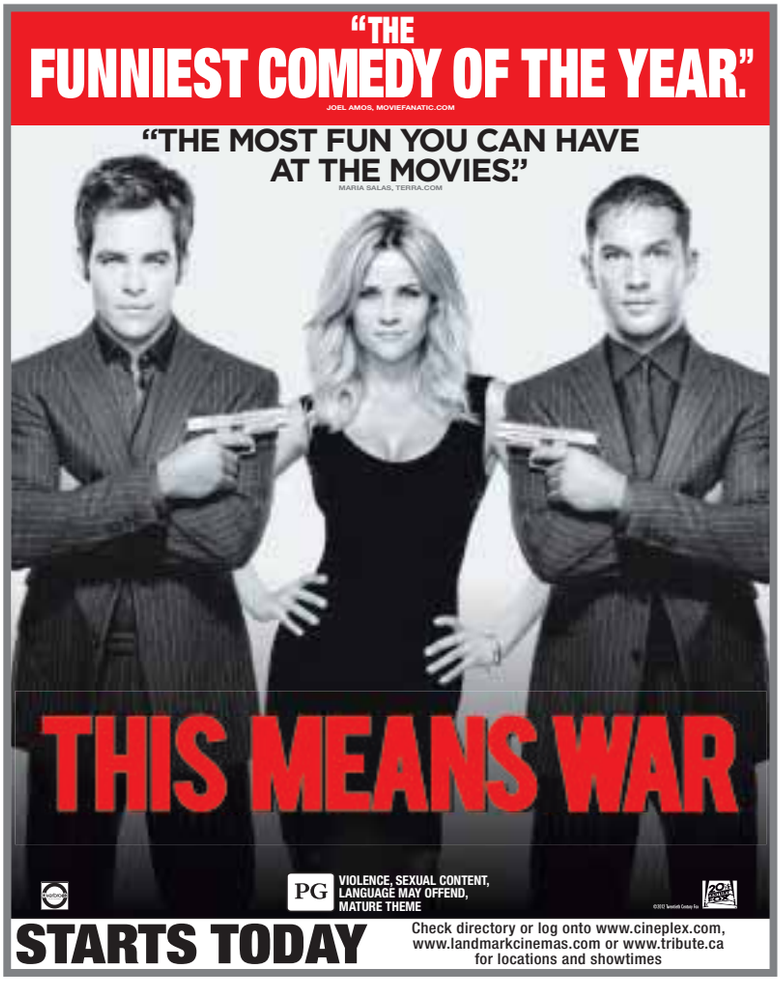
And as phony as the romance plays, the action doesn't add much lift to ease the pain. Full of lame set-ups and unbelievable situations (a government agent with a condo that would make Donald Trump jealous? Really?), this groaner doesn't hold an ounce of plausibility and concludes as disappointing as a box of rancid Valentines Day candy.

STEVE GOW

Into the Abyss
Genre: Documentary
Director: Werner Herzog
Stars: Jason Burkett, Werner Herzog, Michael Perry
⊕⊕⊕

The notably idiosyncratic German director Werner Herzog has made a relatively straightforward documentary about the fallout of a triple homicide in Houston, Texas. If Herzog still uses this real-life tragedy as a way to access his usual themes about the elasticity of truth and the eccentricity of human behaviour, he admirably keeps his usual rhetorical and visual flourishes in check. This is a rigorous, perceptive film.

ADAM NAYMAN


"THE FUNNIEST COMEDY OF THE YEAR."
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THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., FEB. 17 TO THURS., FEB. 23. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

WINNIPEG

Cinema City McGillivray 2190 McGillivray Blvd., 204-269-9981

The Devil Inside (18A) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:40-7:20-10:20
Happy Feet Two 3D (G) Fri-Thu 2-4:50-7:40-10:05
Haywire (14A) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:30-7:15-9:55
The Help (PG) Fri-Thu 1:50-5-8
Jack and Jill (PG) Fri-Thu 2:10-5:10-7:50-10:10
The Muppets (G) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:30-6:30-9:30
New Year's Eve (PG) Fri-Thu 1-4:10-7:10-9:50
Puss in Boots 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1:40-4:20-6:40-9:20
Red Tails (PG) Fri-Thu 1:05-3:50-7-9:45
Tower Heist (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-4:45-7:30-10
We Bought a Zoo (G) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:40-6:45-9:40
Young Adult (14A) Fri-Thu 1:10-4-6:50-10:15

Cinema City Northgate 1399 McPhillips Street, 204-334-6234

The Devil Inside (18A) Fri 5-7:10-9:20 Sat-Mon 1-3-5-7:10-9:20 Tue-Thu 5:50-8:10
Happy Feet Two (G) Fri 4:20 Sat-Mon 2-4:20 Tue-Thu 5:20
Haywire (14A) Fri 3:50-6-8:20 Sat-Mon 1:30-3:50-6-8:20 Tue-Thu 5:40-8
Jack and Jill (PG) Fri-Mon 7-9:40 Tue-Thu 8
The Muppets (G) Fri 4:10-6:40-9:10 Sat-Mon 1:40-4:10-6:40-9:10 Tue-Thu 5-7:40
Puss in Boots (G) Fri 3:40-6:10 Sat-Mon 1:10-3:30-6:10 Tue-Thu 5:30
Red Tails (PG) Fri-Mon 4-9:30 Tue-Thu 4:50
The Sitter (14A) Fri-Mon 8:40 Tue-Thu 7:50
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (PG) Fri 6:50 Sat-Mon 1:20-6:50 Tue-Thu 7:40
We Bought a Zoo (G) Fri 3:40-6:30-9:20 Sat-Mon 12:50-3:40-6:30-9:20 Tue-Thu 4:40-7:30
Young Adult (14A) Fri 4-6:20-8:30 Sat-Mon 1:20-4-6:20-8:30 Tue-Thu 5:10-7:20

Cinematheque 304-100 Arthur, 204-925-3457

Into the Abyss (STC) Fri-Sat 9 Sun 7 Wed-Thu 7
No Films Showing Today (STC) Mon-Tue
The Secret of NIMH (STC) Sun 2

City Cinema - Northgate 1399 McPhillips, 204-334-6234

The Devil Inside (18A) Fri 5-7:10-9:20 Sat-Mon 1-3-5-7:10-9:20 Tue-Thu 5:50-8:10
Happy Feet Two (G) Fri 4:20 Sat-Mon 2-4:20 Tue-Thu 5:20
Haywire (14A) Fri 3:50-6-8:20 Sat-Mon 1:30-3:50-6-8:20 Tue-Thu 5:40-8
Jack and Jill (PG) Fri-Mon 7-9:40 Tue-Thu 8
The Muppets (G) Fri 4:10-6:40-9:10 Sat-Mon 1:40-4:10-6:40-9:10 Tue-Thu 5-7:40
Puss in Boots (G) Fri 3:40-6:10 Sat-Mon 1:10-3:30-6:10 Tue-Thu 5:30
Red Tails (PG) Fri-Mon 4-9:30 Tue-Thu 4:50
The Sitter (14A) Fri-Mon 8:40 Tue-Thu 7:50
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (PG) Fri 6:50 Sat-Mon 1:20-6:50 Tue-Thu 7:40
We Bought a Zoo (G) Fri 3:40-6:30-9:20 Sat-Mon 12:50-3:40-6:30-9:20 Tue-Thu 4:40-7:30
Young Adult (14A) Fri 4-6:20-8:30 Sat-Mon 1:20-4-6:20-8:30 Tue-Thu 5:10-7:20

Famous Players Kildonan Place 1555 Regent Ave W, 204-663-2166

Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (G) Fri 6:20 Sat-Mon 2-4:10-6:20 Tue-Thu 5:40
Big Miracle (G) Fri-Mon 8:30 Tue-Thu 7:50
Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance (14A) No Passes Fri 7:10-9:50 No Passes Sat-Mon 1:40-4:10-7:10-9:50 No Passes Tue-Thu 5:40-8:10
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (PG) Fri 6:30-9 Sat-Mon 1:30-4-6:30-9 Tue-Thu 5:30-7:50
One for the Money (PG) Fri 6:40-9 Sat-Mon 1:20-3:50-6:40-9 Tue-Thu 5:50-8
Safe House (14A) Fri 6:50-9:40 Sat-Mon 1:20-4-6:50-9:40 Tue-Thu 5:30-8:20
The Vow (STC) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Mon 1:50-4:20-7-9:30 Tue-Thu 6-8:30

Grant Park 8 Cinemas 1120 Grant Ave., 204-453-4084

The Descendants (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 4:10-7:05-10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Mon 1-4:10-7:05-10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue-Thu 4:10-7:05-10
Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance 3D (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 4:20-7:10-10:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Mon 1:10-4:20-7:10-10:10 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue-Thu 4:20-7:10-10:10
Hugo 3D (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 3:30-6:35-9:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Mon 12:30-3:30-6:35-9:50 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue-Thu 3:30-6:35-9:50
The Iron Lady (PG) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 4-7:20-10:05 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Mon 1:15-4-7:20-10:05 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue-Wed 4-7:20-10:05 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 4-10:05
Safe House (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 4:15-7-10:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Mon 12:20-4:15-7-10:15 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue-Thu 4:15-7-10:15
Star Wars: Episode I — The Phantom Menace 3D (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 3:20-6:50-9:55 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Mon 12:15-3:20-6:50-9:55 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue-Thu 3:20-6:50-9:55
Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 3:50-6:40-9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Mon 12:40-3:50-6:40-9:45 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue-Thu 3:50-6:40-9:45
The Vow (STC) Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Fri 3:40-6:45-9:35 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Sat-Mon 12:50-3:40-6:45-9:35 Dolby Stereo Digital, Stadium Seating Tue-Thu 3:40-6:45-9:35

IMAX Theatre at Portage Place Y003-393 Portage Avenue, 204-956-4629

Bears (STC) Fri 1:30
Born to Be Wild 3D (G) Fri 12:30-6:15 Sat-Sun 6:15 Mon 12 Tue 7:30 Wed 10 Thu 11:15
Coral Reef Adventure (STC) Mon 3:15 Wed 1:15-6
Egypt 3D: Secrets of the Mummies (STC) Thu 10
Grand Canyon Adventure: River at Risk (STC) Wed 2:15
Greece: Secrets of the Past (G) Wed 12:10 Thu 1:15
Happy Feet Two: An IMAX 3D Experience (G) Fri 2:45-7:30 Sat-Sun 2:30-7:30 Mon 1:15
Pulse: A Stomp Odyssey (STC) Thu 12:15
Tornado Alley 3D (G) Fri 11:15 Sat-Sun 1:15 Wed 11:10-3:15-7:15
The Ultimate Wave Tahiti 3D (STC) Sat-Sun 12

Landmark Globe Cinema 393 Portage Ave, 204-943-1583

Albert Nobbs (14A) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Mon 1-3:30-7-9:30 Tue-Thu 7-9:30
Monsieur Lazhar (PG) Fri 7:20-9:40 Sat-Mon 1:20-3:40-7:20-9:40 Tue-Thu 7:20-9:40
The Secret World of Arrietty (G) Fri 7:10-9:20 Sat-Mon 1:10-3:20-7:10-9:20 Tue-Thu 7:10-9:20

Landmark Towne Cinema 8 301 Notre Dame Avenue, 204-947-2848

Chronicle (PG) Fri 7:15 Sat-Mon 1-3:30-7:15 Tue-Thu 7:15
Coriolanus (14A) Fri 6:30-9:15 Sat-Mon 12:45-3:45-6:30-9:15 Tue-Thu 6:30-9:15
Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance (14A) Fri 7:15-9:30 Sat-Mon 1:30-4-7:15-9:30 Tue-Thu 7:15-9:30
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island 3D (PG) Fri 7-9:15 Sat-Mon 1-3:30-7-9:15 Tue-Thu 7-9:15
Safe House (14A) Fri 6:45-9:30 Sat-Mon 1:15-3:45-6:45-9:30 Tue-Thu 6:45-9:30
Star Wars: Episode I — The Phantom Menace 3D (STC) Fri 6:30-9:20 Sat-Mon 12:45-3:45-6:30-9:20 Tue-Thu 6:30-9:20
This Means War (PG) Fri 7-9:20 Sat-Mon 1:30-4-7-9:20 Tue-Thu 7-9:20
The Vow (STC) Fri 6:45-9:15 Sat-Mon 1-3:30-6:45-9:15 Tue-Thu 6:45-9:15
The Woman in Black (14A) Fri-Thu 9:30

SilverCity Polo Park 815 St. James Street, 204-774-1001

Big Miracle (G) Fri-Sat 2:10-4:45-7:20 Sun 2:10-4:45 Mon 2:10-4:45-7:20 Tue-Thu 1:45-4:20-7
Chronicle (PG) Fri 1:15-3:30-5:40-7:55-10:05 Sat 11:05-1:15-3:30-5:40-7:55-10:05 Sun-Mon 1:15-3:30-5:40-7:55-10:05 Tue 1:20-3:35-5:50-8:05-10:20 Wed 3:35-5:50-8:05-10:20 Thu 1:20-3:35-5:50-8:05-10:20 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Contraband (18A) Fri-Mon 9:55 Tue-Thu 9:45
Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance 3D (14A) No Passes Fri-Mon 12:50-3:20-5:50-8:20-10:50 No Passes Tue-Thu 2:40-5:20-8-10:30
The Grey (14A) Fri 2-4:45-7:35-10:30 Sat 11:15-2-4:45-7:35-10:30 Sun-Thu 2-4:45-7:35-10:30
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island — An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) Fri-Mon 12:30-2:50-5:10-7:30-9:50 Tue-Thu 12:50-3-5:15-7:30-9:50
Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol (14A) Fri 12:45-3:55-7:10 Sat 12:45-7:10 Sun-Thu 12:45-3:55-7:10
The Muppet Movie (STC) Sat 11
LA Phil Live: Gustavo Dudamel Conducts Mahler 8 (STC) Sat 4
Safe House (14A) Fri 1:55-4:40-7:25-10:15 Sat 1:15-4-7:25-10:15 Sun 1:30-4:15-7:15-10:35 Mon-Thu 1:55-4:40-7:25-10:15
The Secret World of Arrietty (G) No Passes Fri-Mon 12:30-2:55-5:20-7:45-10:10 No Passes Tue-Thu 1:35-4:10-6:45-9:15
Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (STC) Fri-Sat 12:55-3:50-6:50-9:50 Sun 3:50-6:50-9:50 Mon 12:55-3:50-6:50-9:50 Tue-Thu 12:55-3:50-6:50-9:55
Star Wars: Episode I — The Phantom Menace 3D (STC) Fri-Mon 1-4:05-7:10-10:20 Tue-Thu 1-4:05-7:05-10:20
This Means War (PG) No Passes Fri-Mon 12:40-3:05-5:30-8-10:25 No Passes Tue 2:30-5-7:40-10:10 No Passes Wed 5-7:40-10:10 No Passes Thu 2:30-5-7:40-10:10 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1
To Kill a Mockingbird (STC) Sun 1
Underworld: Awakening 3D (18A) Fri-Mon 12:55-3:25-5:50-8:25-11 Tue-Thu 2:10-4:50-7:20-10:05
The Vow (STC) Fri-Mon 12:35-3:10-5:45-8:20-10:55 Tue-Thu 2:20-5-7:45-10:25
The Woman in Black (14A) Fri-Mon 12:40-3:10-5:35-8:10-10:40 Tue-Thu 2:05-4:35-7:15-9:40
WWE Elimination Chamber - 2012 (STC) Sun 7

SilverCity St. Vital 110-1225 St Mary's Rd, 204-256-3901

Beauty and the Beast 3D (STC) Fri-Mon 1 Thu 1
Chronicle (PG) Fri-Mon 1:10-4:20-7:10-9:30 Tue-Wed 4:20-7:10-9:30 Thu 1:10-4:20-7:10-9:30
Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance 3D (14A) No Passes Fri-Mon 1:40-4:30-7:20-10 No Passes Tue-Wed 4:30-7:20-10 No Passes Thu 1:40-4:30-7:20-10
The Grey (14A) Fri-Mon 1:30-4:20-7-9:50 Tue-Wed 4:20-7-9:50 Thu 1:30-4:20-7-9:50
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (PG) Fri-Mon 1:30 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 4-6:30-9:10
Safe House (14A) Fri-Mon 1:50-4:30-7:30-10:20 Tue-Wed 4:30-7:30-10:20 Thu 1:50-4:30-7:30-10:20
Star Wars: Episode I — The Phantom Menace 3D (STC) Fri-Mon 1-4-7:20-10:30 Tue-Wed 4-7:20-10:30 Thu 1-4-7:20-10:30
This Means War (PG) No Passes Fri-Mon 1:10-4-6:40-9:20 No Passes Tue-Wed 4-6:40-9:20 No Passes Thu 1:10-4-6:40-9:20
Underworld: Awakening 3D (18A) Fri-Mon 3:10-5:20-7:50-10:30 Tue-Wed 5:20-7:50-10:30 Thu 3:10-5:20-7:50-10:30
The Vow (STC) Fri-Mon 1:40-4:40-7:40-10:20 Tue-Thu 4:40-7:40-10:20 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
The Woman in Black (14A) Fri-Mon 1:50-4:10-6:50-10:10 Tue-Wed 4:10-6:50-10:10 Thu 1:50-4:10-6:50-10:10

HANDOUT

▶ Call us childish, but the couch game really doesn't get old.

Ay, caramba! Simpsons mark another milestone

500th episode of Simpsons to air Sunday on Global

CASSANDRA GARRISON
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN NEW YORK

It's hard to believe that we've been hearing Bart Simpson say "Eat my shorts" since 1989, but the world will be graced with the 500th episode of The Simpsons this Sunday on Global.

The episode, titled At Long Last Leave, will find the Simpsons driven out of their beloved hometown of Springfield when their fellow neighbours finally give them the boot.

The Simpsons join a community from the other side of the tracks and make an unsuccessful attempt to return to Springfield.

Look for a cameo from Wikileaks founder Julian Assange, as himself. A special feature song by Alison Krauss will also be included.

Your faves...

What is your favourite Simpsons episode? Metro asked our readers and Twitter followers to send in their picks.

@Laur008: the one where Bart gets his fake license "that's it! Back to #Winnipeg" is a classic #Simpsons line.

@Sauzey: Far too many to choose BUT favourites include 'Rosebud' 'Homers Phobia' and 'Homer At The Bat'

@TaraLiane: Top 3: Deep Space Homer, Cape Feare, A Fish Called Selma

@elocin8: fave Simpson's episode: when Ralph gives Lisa a Valentine's "I choo-choo-choose you!" Super cute #simpsons>

Speedflirt

She flirts,
He flirts back

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Available in Android Market

Available on the App Store

‘I promise I won’t beat you’

Chris Brown has an awful new pick-up line, according to Us Weekly

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

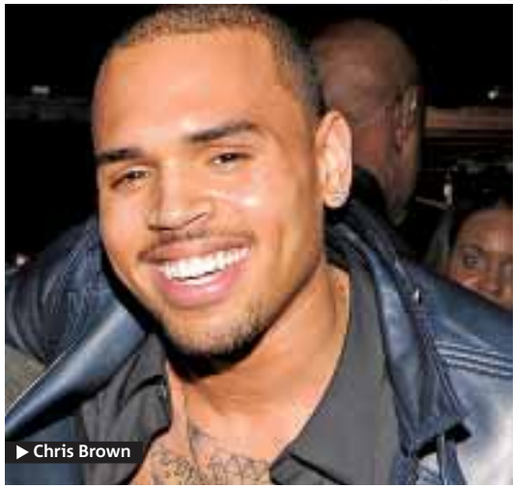
THE WORD

DOROTHY ROBINSON
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Here’s the thing about Chris Brown and The Word: Yes, he brutally beat his then-girlfriend Rihanna in 2009. But the man served the sentence our judicial system thought was fair and so he should be allowed to get on with his life and music without a stupid gossip columnist dredging it up all the time.

My prerogative is that we all know he’s a cowardly woman beater. Do with that information what you will.

Except the idiot continues to open his big mouth and make jokes about domestic violence and so, sorry, I can’t drop it.



▶ Chris Brown

According to Us Weekly, Brown has a totally romantic new pick-up line. A woman tells the magazine that Brown approached her on Feb. 10 at the Grammy gift lounge to ask for her number.

“Can I get your number? I promise I won’t beat you,” the woman said Brown told her.

“He and his friends laughed, then one yelled, ‘That’s his new line!’” she said. “I wanted to throw up.”

There are many ways I would like to respond to this stupid, hurtful and awful running joke of Brown’s but I don’t have the space. I’ll just say: It is my sincere hope that one day Chris Brown has a daughter and maybe, just maybe, he will feel sick at the thought of any man laying a hand on her. And then he will finally realize just what a terrible thing he did in his past and will finally know that making flippant asides about beating women is not OK.

But somehow, even then, I don’t think he’ll get it.

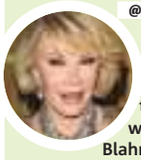
Celebrity tweets

@kirstiealley

my house has become a soup kitchen for wayward Raccoons...now serving 8 of em twice a day...just in case ur missing them, there over here

@Billy

man cheats on wife, marries his mistress, runs for president and gets an ovation for being insane...only in amerisicka



@Joan_Rivers

It’s times like these that you wish Manolo Blahnik made a wading boot.

@ConanOBrien

What will become of the SkyMall catalogue when there are actually malls in the sky?

Angelina gets death threats

Angelina Jolie and the actors who star in her directorial debut, In the Land of Blood and Honey, have been receiving death threats over the film’s content, according to The Guardian.

“There were things sent to me, there were things posted online,” Jolie says. “The cast have never complained to me about these threats but I’ve heard through other people it was happening. One of them did have their windows smashed in on their cars and someone else had an issue when their phone was hacked and emails were sent out saying they were from them and saying they had been hurt.” METRO

Angelina Jolie

▶ Whitney Houston

Just what exactly was Whitney on?

In the investigation into what exactly caused Whitney Houston’s death, investigators are reportedly interviewing the late singer’s doctors about what sort of medications had been prescribed, according to the Associated Press.

“We’ve already contacted a number of doctors with requests for records,” a coroner’s official confirms, adding that such a move is common in investigations such as this one. The move brings to mind the investigation into Michael Jackson’s death, which resulted in his doctor, Conrad Murray, being convicted on manslaughter charges. METRO

Rumer speaks out

Rumer Willis is finally speaking out about mom Demi Moore’s drug-related hospitalization and current rehab stint in Utah.

“My mother is on the road to recovery. It’s slow going but we believe in her,” Willis tells Germany’s TZ online.

“Of course the situation weighs heavily on me.” Willis is alleged to have been at home with Moore when an ambulance had to be called to rush Moore to the hospital. METRO

▶ Rumer Willis

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PETER ROCKWELL
LIQUIDASSETS@EASTLINK.CA
TWITTER: @THEREALWINEGUY

You have to love a celebration that can combine beads, boobs and beverages, and still stay classy. OK, while Mardi Gras may not be the textbook example of class, it certainly is a world-renowned party.

Many revellers wandering the streets of New Orleans during the festivities will be enjoying a Hurricane — the city's hallmark cocktail.

Invented in the 1940s by French Quarter bar owner Pat O'Brien, it's a mix of rum and fruit juices served in a glass resembling a hurricane lamp.

The recipe is simple to make:

- 1 oz white rum
- 1 oz dark rum
- 2 oz passion fruit juice
- 1 oz orange juice
- ½ oz fresh lime juice
- 1 tbsp simple syrup
- 1 tbsp grenadine
- 1 orange slice & cherry

Shake all the ingredients together with ice and strain into an ice-filled glass. Garnish with the cherry and orange slice.

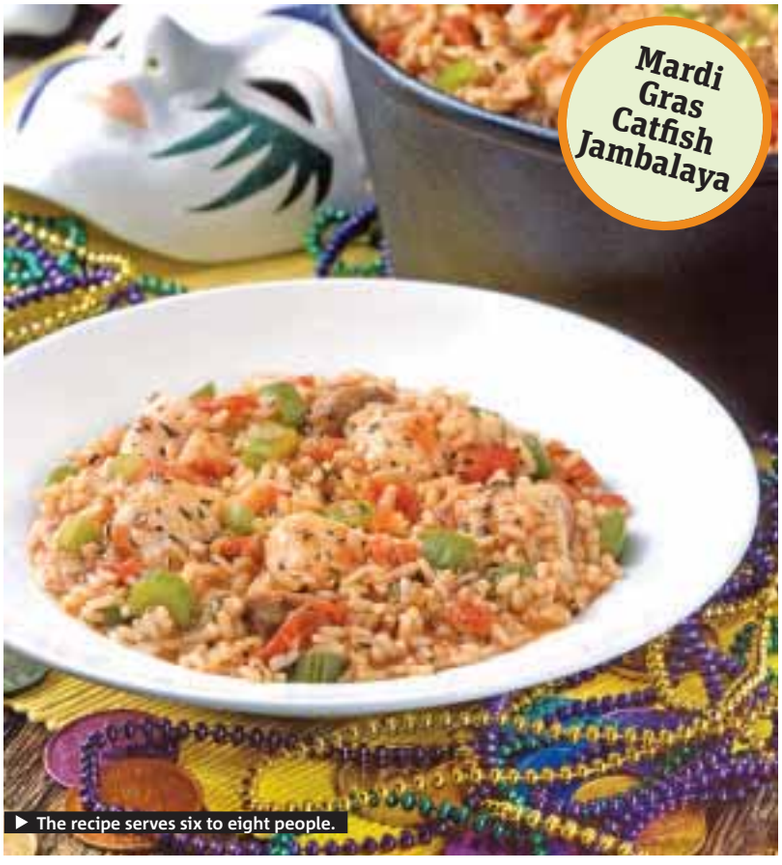
My alternative version adds half an ounce of Bacardi 151° Overproof Amber Rum ($34.99 - $44.95) to the mix. It kicks the drink into overdrive.

PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS CANADA. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.

Beads, booze and jambalaya

New Orleans' Mardi Gras celebrations take place on Tuesday If you can't get there, enjoy a taste from home with this Southern favourite

U.S. FARM-RAISED CATFISH



The recipe serves six to eight people.

This bowl full of colour and flavour is made even better with the addition of catfish.

The jambalaya should be thick. If it's too thin, simmer it uncovered until some liquid evaporates.

Preparation:

1 In a Dutch oven or a wide saucepan heat olive oil over medium heat. Add the sausage and cook until it is lightly browned. Add the ham, onion, celery, green pepper and garlic, cook, stirring the mixture for about 8 to 10 minutes.

2 Stir in the broth, tomatoes, herbs and hot pepper sauce. Bring it to boil. Add the rice. Cover the pot and simmer for about 15 minutes or until the rice is partially cooked. Stir inthe catfish pieces and bring back to simmer. Cover the pot and cook 15 minutes or until fish flakes easily with a fork and rice is tender. Remove from heat; cover and let stand for 5 minutes. Add salt to taste before serving.

U.S. FARM-RAISED CATFISH

Ingredients:

- 1 tbsp (15 mL) olive oil
- ½ lb (250 g) mild or hot Italian sausage, cut into 1/2-inch (1-cm) pieces
- ½ lb (250 g) smoked ham or kielbasa, cut into 1-inch (2.5-cm) pieces
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 large celery stalk, chopped
- 1 large green bell pepper, chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 4 cups (1L) low-sodium chicken broth
- 1 can (28 oz/796 mL) diced tomatoes
- 1 ½ tsp (7 mL) thyme
- ½ tsp (2 mL) basil leaves
- 1 tsp (5 mL) each dried oregano leaves and hot pepper sauce
- 1 ½ cups (375 mL) uncooked long-grain rice
- 2 lbs (1 kg) Catfish fillets, cut into pieces about 1 ½ - inches (3.5-cm)
- Salt to taste

3 life

More than beads

Hours before New Orleans' Carnival parade, ice chests are filled with food and drink, grills are fired up and the Mardi Gras equivalent of the world's biggest tailgate party gets under way.

After Carnival season , many New Orleans locals give up their favourite foods for Lent. That makes Mardi Gras a great time to consume everything from gumbo and fired chicken to crawfish and pork chops, topped with King Cake and washed down with beer.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sweet taste of New Orleans: Recipe for Praline Beignets with Café au Lait Icing.

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NHL. St. Paul, Minn.

▶ Minnesota's Jared Spurgeon and Winnipeg's Chris Thorburn race for the puck on Thursday night.

JIM MONE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kane the hero as Jets beat Wild in shootout

Evander Kane had two goals in regulation and the winner in the fourth round of a shootout, lifting the Winnipeg Jets to a 4-3 victory over the Minnesota Wild on Thursday night.
Wild goalie Niklas Backstrom stopped two of the first three shots he saw in the shootout, but he fell to 3-5 this season and 15-29 in his career in those situations. Kane has four goals in five games for the Jets since returning from injury and 21 for the season. He upstaged Devin Setoguchi, who had his first two-goal game for the Wild, who scored on their first shot of each period.

LaBatte joins the Riders

Free-agent lineman chooses to return to province of his birth rather than re-sign with Bombers, who drafted him Saskatchewan denies reports of $200,000 salary for LaBatte

Brendon LaBatte returned home Thursday while Andy Fantuz continues to decide whether to follow suit.

LaBatte signed with the CFL's Saskatchewan Roughriders on Thursday, just over a day after becoming a free agent. The native of Weyburn, Sask., opted to return to his home province after weighing offers from the Edmonton Eskimos and Winnipeg Blue Bombers, who drafted the six-foot-four, 304-pound offensive guard four years ago.

"At the end of the day you add up all the pros and cons from all the potential scenarios. I felt that everything that mattered most is at home and that's why I chose to return," said LaBatte, who played collegiately at the University of Regina. "To be able to play in front of my friends and family and know how much this team means to this province, I mean I've lived it my whole life, I'm extremely happy to be able to go out and represent this club."

"Man seems like every team has gotten better except us....I guess our 3 quarterbacks gonna play some receiver get the F outta here man."
TWEET FROM BOMBERS DEFENSIVE BACK JONATHAN HEFNEY, WHO LATER APOLOGIZED FOR THE REMARK

The Roughriders also signed Dominic Picard on Thursday, a free-agent centre who spent the last three seasons with the Toronto Argonauts.

While family and home both factored in LaBatte's decision, obviously money did too as the Riders paid handsomely to land the 25-year-old. But GM Brendan Taman vehemently denied published reports LaBatte's deal was worth about $200,000 annually.

"No, I didn't pay Brendon LaBatte that money," Taman said. "We matched Winnipeg's offer and we ended up getting him because he wanted to play at home.

"The $200,000 figure is ludicrous."

Winnipeg had offered LaBatte a multi-year deal reportedly worth about $170,000 a year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gary Carter dead at age 57

Gary Carter was nicknamed "Kid" for good reason.

His smile, bubbly personality and eagerness to excel on a ballfield made him a joy to watch.

The star catcher, the first player enshrined in the Hall of Fame wearing an Expos cap, died Thursday. He was 57.

Mets spokesman Jay Horwitz said Carter died in the West Palm Beach, Fla., area.

Carter was diagnosed with a malignant brain tumour last May, two weeks after finishing his second season as coach at Palm Beach Atlantic University.

Carter started his career with the Expos late in the 1974 season and was the face of the franchise in his 12 seasons with the team. He led Montreal to its only playoff berth in 1981.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BERNARD BRAULT/THE CANADIAN PRESS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Gary Carter is mobbed by fans in Montreal in July 1983.

4 sports

Jets preview

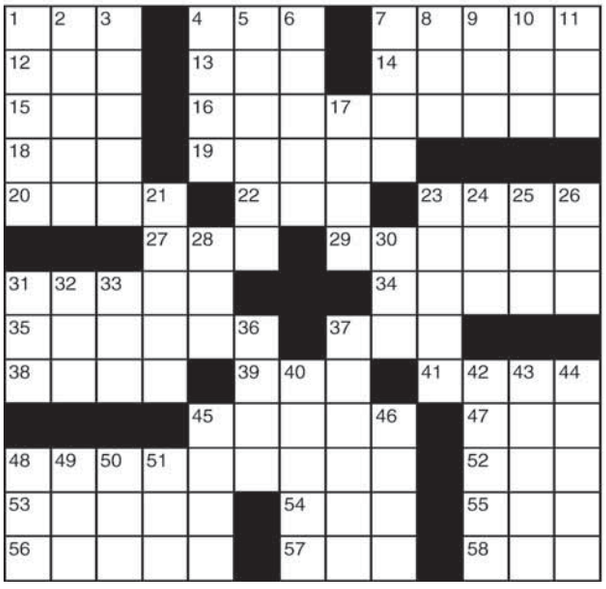
Boston at Winnipeg
7 p.m., Friday
TV: TSN

The Jets (26-26-6) host Boston (35-18-2), which defeated Montreal 4-3 in a shootout on Wednesday for its fifth win in the past 10 games. Tyler Seguin, who scored the shootout winner and leads Boston in goals and plus-minus, has two points and is minus-6 in his last nine games. David Krejci is pointless in the last seven games and is minus-10 since Jan. 7. Tim Thomas has started three straight games and five of the last six for the Bruins, meaning Tuukka Rask is likely to get the start on Friday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Scan code for more sports.

Crossword



Across

1 Sort
4 Part of UCLA
7 Rice, on a Mexican menu
12 Army rank (Abbr.)
13 Raw rock
14 007 portrayer Roger
15 Debtor's letters
16 Zodiac sign
18 Small salamander
19 14-Across, e.g.
20 Bronx cheer
22 Long. crosser
23 Long story
27 Lamb's dam
29 Hostage taker
31 Spry
34 Neat
35 Per — income
37 A Bobbsey Twin
38 Trudge
39 Personal question?
41 T, in Morse code
45 Handles
47 Meadow
48 Toy shooter
52 Rowing need
53 Eye-related
54 Tokyo's old name
55 Storefront sign abbr.
56 Practical joke
57 Caustic solution
58 Fire residue

Down

1 Less friendly
2 Bath sponge
3 Inept one
4 "Livin' la Vida —"
5 Soothsayer
6 Partitions that may be "deviated"
7 Eastern bigwig (Var.)
8 Sinbad's bird
9 Aussie hopper
10 Boston rink legend
11 Buddhist sect
17 Campus mil. org.
21 Chameleonlike Woody Allen character
23 Shell out
24 $ dispenser
25 Dems.' rivals
26 Illustrations
28 Drench
30 Alias abbr.
31 Rm. coolers
32 Lassie
33 NYSE debut
36 Botanical bristles
37 Nary a soul
40 Monopoly building
42 Wahine's welcome
43 Big name in mail order
44 Coarse
45 Break (a habit)
46 — gin fizz
48 Police officer
49 Spring mo.
50 Bake sale grp.
51 Wrestling victory

▶ Yesterday's answer

Sudoku

7		4	1				6	
				8				
				5	7			4
2		5			4	7		
1		3				6		5
		6	5			8		9
8			9	6				
				2				
	1				8	2		3

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

5	1	3	6	9	2	8	7	4
4	8	7	3	1	5	9	6	2
6	9	2	4	7	8	3	1	5
9	2	1	7	8	6	5	4	3
7	5	4	1	2	3	6	8	9
8	3	6	9	5	4	7	2	1
1	6	8	5	4	9	2	3	7
3	4	9	2	6	7	1	5	8
2	7	5	8	3	1	4	9	6

Send a KISS

You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, at metronews.ca/kiss.

Brani, I love you more than anything in the worl! Be my wife and let's be happy! **TONI**

Dear Chris, you made my life brighter. We used to chat in the stairs, we used to laugh together, drink wine together, lie on your bed and talk all night long, can't stop thinking about you :(I know you had a crush on this other girl (I told you I think she's a total loser...anyways...) and I'm super shy, so I didn't make any move or didn't express my feelings so far...but now I haven't heard from you since you're back from your lil trip. Whatever happens between us, I just want to tell you I love you. **YOUR LONG TIME FAN**

To my pet, I'm eagerly to see u at terminal and main at 11am i'll be there untill 1230.come to see me. **MCDONALD**

A look at the weather

BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Min -11° Max -8°	Min -15° Max -2°	Min -17° Max -4°

Jenna Khan, Weather Specialist
"Weather impacts everything we do. Providing the information you need before you head out that door and take on the day is the best part of my morning." **WEEKDAYS 5:30 AM**

Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20
Someone whose views you disagree with profoundly will play a huge role in your life over the next few weeks. You need each other.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21
When the Sun changes signs on Sunday, you'll be back to your old self again. Between now and then, prepare for some fireworks.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21
The Sun is about to cross the career angle of your chart, which suggests you will be in the spotlight.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 According to the planets, you'll start something new over the next few weeks. Don't waste your resources.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23
You are on the verge of something big, but you don't need to force the situation. Let success come to you.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22
Cosmic activity in your opposite sign makes it appear as if you're losing control. Stop trying to hold on to what you no longer need.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23
The Sun's imminent move into the well-being area of your chart makes it a good time to take stock of your chores and responsibilities.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22
You will get no end of opportunities between now and the end of the month to make your mark.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 What's missing in your life will become apparent over the next few days. Once it does, all you have to do is go out and get it.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20
If someone offers you something for nothing, they probably just like you and want to make you happy.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18
Wait until the Sun leaves your sign on the weekend before making a decision about a money matter.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 A new solar year begins on Sunday and it promises to be one in which your dreams start coming true.

SALLY BROMPTON

Caption contest

DAVID GUTTENFELDER/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CRAIG RUTTLE/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WIN!

You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in Tuesday's Metro.

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